

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of the present reissue application in view of the present amendment and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

This application is a broadening reissue application for U.S. Patent No. 6,297,945 B1 issued on October 2, 2001.

The reissue application filed herewith adds new Claims 13-133, in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.173(b) and (d). The status of all patent claims and all added claims is set forth on the following separate page, as required by 37 CFR § 1.173(c). An explanation of the support in the disclosure of the patent for the changes to the claims is provided on the next page, as required by 37 CFR § 1.173(c).

Claims 1-133 are presently active in the case, with Claims 1-12 previously patented and Claims 13-133 added by the present amendment.

Accordingly, Applicants believe all requirements of 37 CFR § 1.173(b), (c), and (d) are complied with, and that the present reissue application is in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski
Registration No. 34,648
Attorney of Record
Michael E. Monaco
Registration No. 52,041

Customer Number

22850

Tel. No. (703) 413-3000

Fax No. (703) 413-2220

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STATUS OF THE CLAIMS, AS REQUIRED BY 37 CFR 1.173(c)

MPEP 1453 states “*Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.173(c), each amendment submitted must set forth the status of all patent claims and all added claims as of the date of the submission. The status to be set forth is whether the claim is pending or cancelled.*”

As of the date of the submission of the present reissue application and preliminary amendment, issued Claims 1-12 and new Claims 13-133 are pending.

SUPPORT FOR THE NEW CLAIMS, AS REQUIRED BY 37 CFR 1.173(c)

MPEP 1453 states “*Also pursuant to 37 CFR 1.173(c), each claim amendment must be accompanied by an explanation of the support in the disclosure of the patent for the amendment (i.e., support for all changes made in the claims(s), whether insertions or deletions).*”

Each of new Claims 13-133 find support in the parent patent’s original specification at least at the follow locations: specification, column 3, lines 18-44; and Figures 4 and 7-11.